IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (New): A method for transmitting entitlement management messages (EMM) controlling access to data and/or services to be provided to a plurality of terminals in a data exchange network, the method comprising:

at transmission:

defining a set of EMM type messages as a function of at least one criterion representative of a type of data and/or services provided;

defining a plurality of types of logical transmission channels and associating at least one parameter to each type of channel to inform terminals of the EMM types transmitting on each described logical channel;

assigning at least one channel among the defined logical transmission channels, to each EMM message type;

transmitting the parameter and the logical channels to each terminal;

multiplexing the logical transmission channels in a same data stream; and

transmitting the data stream to terminals; and

at reception:

each terminal filtering incoming EMMs as a function of the parameter and at least one state parameter depending on a routine operation of the terminal.

Claim 18 (New): A method according to claim 17, wherein the parameter is transmitted to each terminal in a dynamic data structure representing a logical control channel.

Claim 19 (New): A method according to claim 19, wherein the dynamic data structure is transmitted in an encrypted EMM.

Claim 20 (New): A method according to claim 19, wherein the dynamic structure comprises at least one of following fields:

a first field configured to enable the terminal to identify the logical channel described by structure;

a second field configured to inform the terminal about a change to data and/or a change to a dynamic structure corresponding to transmission of new data on the described channel such that the terminal adapts its filtering to retrieve the new data; and

a third field configured to inform the terminal about a listen time on the described channel.

Claim 21 (New): A method according to claim 20, wherein the third field represents a minimum fixed duration sufficiently long to enable the terminal to retrieve the transmitted messages.

Claim 22 (New): A method according to claim 20, wherein the third field represents a minimum variable duration, as a function of a repetition rate at which EMM messages are sent.

Claim 23 (New): A method according to claim 22, wherein the types of defined logical channels comprise at least:

a FAST channel configured to transmit EMM messages to terminals that expressly requested the EMM messages;

a DEDICATED channel configured to transmit EMM messages with identical functional objectives;

a NORMAL channel configured to transmit EMM messages for which contents are not predictable and may not be delayed in time;

a DELAYED channel configured to transmit non-urgent EMM messages with plural functional objectives, to terminals; and

a LOAD SHEDDING channel configured to retransmit messages that have already been transmitted on a channel other than the DEDICATED channel, to terminals.

Claim 24 (New): A method according to claim 23, wherein a minimum variable duration for the FAST, NORMAL, DELAYED, and DEDICATED channels is estimated as a function of the repetition rate at which EMM messages are sent.

Claim 25 (New): A method according to claim 17, wherein the data and/or services provided to terminals represent multimedia programs.

Claim 26 (New): A method according to claim 25, wherein the data and/or services provided to terminals represent audiovisual programs.

Claim 27 (New): A method according to claim 17, wherein the EMM messages are transmitted in broadcast mode.

Claim 28 (New): A method according to claim 17, wherein the EMM messages are transmitted in connected mode.

Claim 29 (New): A method according to claim 27, wherein the EMM messages are encapsulated in MPEG format.

Claim 30 (New): A method according to claim 28, wherein the EMM messages are encapsulated in MPEG format.

Claim 31 (New): A method according to claim 29, wherein the MPEG payload units obtained contain at least private information including:

EMM_XID representing an identifier of the EMM;

LG_EMM representing a length of the EMM;

and contents of the EMM.

Claim 32 (New): A method according to claim 30, wherein the MPEG payload units obtained contain at least private information including:

EMM_XID representing an identifier of the EMM;

LG_EMM representing a length of the EMM;

and contents of the EMM.

Claim 33 (New): A device for transmitting entitlement management messages controlling access to data and/or services to be provided to a plurality of terminals in a data exchange network, comprising:

means for defining a set of EMM type messages as a function of at least one criterion representative of a type of data and/or services provided;

means for defining plural types of logical transmission channels as a function of contents to be transmitted on each channel;

means for assigning a logical transmission channel to each EMM message type;

means for multiplexing the logical transmission channels in a same data stream;

means for transmitting the data stream to terminals; and

means for filtering incoming EMMs into a terminal, as a function of defined channel types.

Claim 34 (New): A device according to claim 33, further comprising:

means for associating at least one parameter to each channel type, to inform terminals about EMM types transmitting on each of the described logical channels;

means for transmitting the parameter to each terminal; and

means for enabling each terminal to filter incoming EMMs as a function of the parameter, and at least one status parameter reflecting a routine operation of the terminal.